

Remarks

Applicants have amended claims 1 and 7. Applicants submit that claims 1-15 and 18-22 are currently pending in this patent application. Applicants are submitting this Amendment along with a Request for Continued Examiner as the amendments provided herein were identified as not being earlier entered in the above-identified Advisory Action in response to the above-identified Office action.

Applicants now address each and every point raised in the above-identified Advisory Action and Office action as follows:

I. Rejection of Claims 1 to 15 Under Section 112

Claims 1 to 15 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. The Examiner alleges in this rejection that the specification does not enable one skilled in the art to make an invention that is commensurate in scope with what is recited in the claims. Specifically, the Examiner alleges that the specification does not enable a composition recited in the claims that lacks: (1) water; (2) any amine curative agent; (3) any epoxy resin; (4) any metallic catalyst; (5) any silicone intermediate; and (6) any elastomer resinous intermediate.

With respect to independent claim 1, this claim has been amended to include water. As amended, independent claim 1 recites a composition comprising: (1) water; (2) an amine curative agent; (3) an epoxy resin; (4) an alkoxy or silanol-functional silicone intermediate; and (5) an elastomeric resinous intermediate. Accordingly, Applicants submit that amended independent claim 1 recites all of the ingredients alleged by the Examiner to not exist, with the exception of the metallic catalyst.

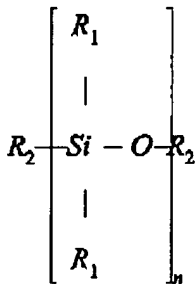
With respect to the Examiner's comment in the Advisory Action to provide support for use of the catalyst material as being an optional ingredient, Applicants submit that the specification amply supports the fact that the metallic catalyst is an optional ingredient (see paragraphs 0006, last sentence; paragraph 15; and paragraphs 0055 to 00570), and for this reason is not a mandatory ingredient that must appear in independent claim 1.

For these reasons, Applicants submit that the composition as recited in amended independent claim 1 is reasonably enabled by the specification.

With respect to independent claim 7, this claim has also been amended to include water, and as amended recites a composition prepared by combining: (1) water; (2) an aminosilane; (3) an epoxy resin having at least two 1,2-epoxide groups; (4) a silicone intermediate selected from the group consisting of alkoxy and silanol-functional polysiloxanes; and (5) an elastomeric resinous intermediate having a functionality selected from the group consisting of hydroxyl, epoxy, isocyanate, carboxyl, mercaptan, and amine.

As discussed above with respect to amended independent claim 1, Applicants submit that amended independent claim 7 recites all of the ingredients alleged by the Examiner to not exist, with the exception of the metallic catalyst, that the absence of this optional ingredient is well supported by the specification, and that the composition as recited in amended independent claim 7 is reasonably enabled by the specification.

With respect to independent claim 12, this claim as presently pending recites a composition prepared by combining: (1) water; (2) an aminosilane; (3) an epoxy resin having an epoxide equivalent weight in the range of from 100 to about 5,000; (4) a silicone intermediate having the formula



where each R_1 is selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, alkyl, aryl and alkoxy groups having up to six carbon atoms, each R_2 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, and aryl groups having up to six carbon atoms and, wherein n is selected so that the weight-average molecular weight for the polysiloxane is in the range of from about 400 to 10,000; and (5) an elastomeric resinous intermediate. Applicants submit that independent claim 12 recites all of the ingredients alleged by the Examiner to not exist, with the exception of the metallic catalyst, that the absence of this optional ingredient is well supported by the specification, and that the composition as recited in independent claim 12 is reasonably enabled by the specification.

For the reasons presented above, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of independent claims 1, 7 and 12 (and the remaining claims depending therefrom) under 35 U.S.C. § 112 be reconsidered and withdrawn.

II. Rejection of Claims 18 to 22 under Section 112

The Examiner has requested the Applicants to point to support in the specification for the subject matter presented in Claims 18 to 22. Support for the subject matter of claims 18 and 21 can be found in paragraph 0065. Support for the subject matter of claims 19 and 22 can be found in paragraphs 0035 and 0017. With respect to the Examiner's comment in the Advisory Actino for support of the subject matter recited in claim 20, Applicants submit that this subject matter is well supported in paragraph 0042 of the published patent application.

In view thereof, Applicants submit that the subject matter presented in claims 18 to 22 is well supported by the specification, and respectfully request that any objection to these claims be reconsidered and withdrawn.

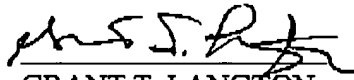
III. Conclusion

For the reasons presented above, Applicants respectfully request that this Amendment be entered, that the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 112 be reconsidered and withdrawn, and that claims 1 to 15, and 18 to 22 be passed to allowance.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees necessary to Deposit Account 10-0440, or to credit any overpayment to the same.

Respectfully submitted,

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